

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 3 p.m., on Monday, May 21, 2018.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 13 public bills, H.R. 8, 5874–5886; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 904 were introduced. **Page H4242**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H4243**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 299, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–680);

H.R. 1972, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to waive the requirement of certain veterans to make copayments for hospital care and medical services in the case of an error by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–681);

H.R. 2147, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to hire additional Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists to provide treatment court services to justice-involved veterans, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–682);

H.R. 3642, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to improve the access to private health care for veterans who are survivors of military sexual trauma, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–683);

H.R. 3832, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the executive director of a national network of State-based prescription monitoring programs under which Department of Veterans Affairs health care

providers shall query such network, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 115–684);

H.R. 4334, to provide for certain reporting requirements relating to medical care for women veterans provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs and through contracts entered into by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with non-Department medical providers, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–685);

H.R. 4451, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a five-year extension to the homeless veterans reintegration programs and to provide clarification regarding eligibility for services under such programs, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–686);

H.R. 4635, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the number of peer-to-peer counselors providing counseling for women veterans, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–687);

H.R. 4958, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2018, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–688);

H.R. 5044, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the treatment of certain surviving spouses under the contracting goals and preferences of the Department of Veterans Affairs (H. Rept. 115–689); and

H.R. 5520, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use the authority of the Secretary to conduct and support research on the efficacy and safety

of medicinal cannabis, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–690). **Pages H4241–42**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a recorded vote of 183 ayes to 163 noes with one answering "present", Roll No. 206.

Pages H4211, H4233–34

Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018: The House failed to pass H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, by a yea-and-nay vote of 198 yeas to 213 nays, Roll No. 205.

Pages H4213–26, H4226–33

Rejected the Sean Patrick Maloney (NY) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Agriculture with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 183 ayes to 226 noes, Roll No. 204.

Pages H4230–32

Agreed to:

Pearce amendment (No. 21 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that establishes a pilot program to demonstrate effective tools and techniques for safeguarding national forests and watersheds;

Pages H4213–15

Stefanik amendment (No. 22 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that prioritizes grants for forest restoration under the Competitive Forestry, Natural Resources, and Environmental Grants Program;

Pages H4215–16

Faso amendment (No. 23 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that improves cooperation with the Forest Service to intercept tree and wood pests and would require a report on the interception of forest pests;

Pages H4216–17

Costello (PA) amendment (No. 26 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that directs the Secretary to designate, among existing USDA staff, a Beginning Farmer and Rancher (BFR) Coordinator in each state, without associated cost;

Pages H4219–20

Noem amendment (No. 27 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that creates a new initiative to allow the United States Department of Agriculture to match funds invested in educational programs or services for Indians;

Pages H4220–21

Johnson (LA) amendment (No. 29 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that requires the Secretary to consider the totality of conservation measures already in place, or proposed, to mitigate species or habitat loss when determining whether Federal action is likely to jeopardize either;

Pages H4223–24

Hollingsworth amendment (No. 30 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that allows the Secretary of the Interior, in conjunction with the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, to issue depredation permits to livestock farmers authorizing the taking of black

vultures otherwise prohibited by law to prevent damage to livestock during calving season;

Pages H4224–25

Roskam amendment (No. 28 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that strengthens prohibitions against animal fighting by ensuring the law applies to all US territories (by a recorded vote of 359 ayes to 51 noes, Roll No. 202); and

Pages H4221–23, H4228–29

Banks (IN) amendment (No. 31 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that repeals the final rule issued by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of the Army entitled "Clean Water Rule: Definition of 'Waters of the United States'" (80 Fed. Reg. 37053 (June 29, 2015)) (by a recorded vote of 238 ayes to 173 noes, Roll No. 203).

Pages H4225–26, H4226–27, H4229–30

Rejected:

Russell amendment (No. 17 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that was debated on May 17th that sought to amend the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 to prohibit the Department of Agriculture (USDA) from awarding value-added agricultural product market development grants to support the marketing of beer, wine, distilled spirits, hard cider, or other alcohol products; the amendment also rescinds \$8 million of the unobligated funds that were previously provided to USDA for grants (by a recorded vote of 54 ayes to 356 noes, Roll No. 200); and

Pages H4227–28

Massie amendment (No. 25 printed in H. Rept. 115–679) that sought to prohibit federal interference with the interstate traffic of unpasteurized milk and milk products between States that allow the distribution of unpasteurized milk or milk products for direct human consumption (by a recorded vote of 79 ayes to 331 noes, Roll No. 201).

Pages H4217–19, H4228

Representative Ryan (WI) moved that the House reconsider the vote on passage of the bill. Subsequently, proceedings on the motion were postponed.

Page H4233

H. Res. 900, the rule providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2) was agreed to yesterday, May 17th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Monday, May 21st for Morning Hour debate.

Page H4234

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to the stabilization of Iraq is to continue in effect beyond May 22, 2018—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 115–128).

Pages H4235–36

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4227–28, H4228, H4228–29, H4229–30, H4232, H4232–33, and H4233–34. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing on H.R. 2278, the “Responsible Disposal Reauthorization Act of 2017”; and H.R. 2389, to reauthorize the West Valley demonstration project and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Representative Reed; Mark Gilbertson, Associate Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Regulatory and Policy Affairs, Office of Environmental Management, Department of Energy; and Noah C. Shaw, General Counsel and Secretary, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.

DISRUPTER SERIES: QUANTUM COMPUTING

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection held a hearing entitled “Disrupter Series: Quantum Computing”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR OPEC: THE ‘NO OIL PRODUCING AND EXPORTING CARTELS ACT’

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law held

a hearing entitled “Accountability for OPEC: H.R. _____, the ‘No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels Act’”. Testimony was heard from Phillip Brown, Specialist in Energy Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE 2020 CENSUS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee concluded a hearing entitled “Progress Report on the 2020 Census”. Testimony was heard from John M. Gore, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2019, 5 p.m., SR–232A.

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on S. 2155, the “Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act”; S. 204, the “Trickett Wendler, Frank Mongiello, Jordan McLinn, and Matthew Bellina Right to Try Act of 2017”; and H.R. 5515, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019” [General Debate], 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, May 21

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Dana Baiocco, of Ohio, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

(The filing deadline for first-degree amendments to the House Message to accompany S. 2372, Veterans Cemetery Benefit Correction Act, is at 5 p.m.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, May 21

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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Congressional Record

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